

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

- 1) (Currently Amended) A process for preparing nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels, which comprises reacting lithium hydroxide and a titanium alkoxide at from 50 to 180 °C in a reaction mixture which forms water of reaction, wherein the reaction mixture consists essentially of lithium hydroxide, titanium alkoxide, as well as an alcohol or a glycol ether as a first component and a carboxylic acid or a mixture of carboxylic acids as a second component wherein said nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels have a particle size from 1 to 10 nm.
- 2) (Cancelled)
- 3) (Previously presented) A process for preparing nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out at a pressure of from 0.1 to 3 bar.
- 4) (Currently Amended) A process for preparing nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels as claimed in claim 1, wherein a molar ratio of titanium alkoxide to [a] the first component for the reaction forming water of reaction is from 0.8:1 to 50:1.
- 5) (Currently Amended) A process for preparing nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels as claimed in claim 4, wherein a molar ratio of the first component to [a] the second component for the reaction forming water of reaction is from 3:1 to 0.95:1.

6) (Previously Presented) A process for preparing nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels as claimed claim 1, wherein the spinels are sintered at from 350 to 700 °C.

7) (Previously Presented) A process for preparing nanocrystalline lithium titanate spinels as claimed in claim 1, wherein the particle size is from 2 to 8 nm.

8)-10) (canceled)